

The Beacon

A weekly email newsletter from
Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church
Serving Bainbridge Island and Northern Kitsap County



CEDARS CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Volume 11 Issue 27 / July 9, 2021

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Upcoming Services

The Purposes of Time Travel

Sunday July 11th
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Worship Service

Rev. Barbara H. Gadon
and the worship staff of
Eliot Unitarian Chapel, St. Louis, MO

36 years have passed since Back to the Future was released in 1985 - longer than Marty McFly travels to encounter his parents as teenagers. What does this movie say to us now? And why are we so in love with time travel?

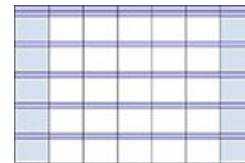
The Art of Blessing

Sunday July 18th
10:00 a.m.
Virtual Worship Service

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen
Bryan Baker, Worship Associate

Saying a blessing offers us a chance to mark a transition or delineate between what was and is not. Join us for this service as we reflect on what a blessing is and how we can learn the art of blessing.

Current Week Calendar and Links



Your Cedars community invites you to participate in services and activities, get information, enjoy fellowship, and pause for reflection.

To view our detailed calendar [click here](#). Then click on the event titles for more information.

Sunday July 11th
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
[Virtual Sunday Service Link](#)

11:00 a.m. Congregational Coffee Hour
[Virtual Coffee Hour Link](#)
Use passcode 1959 if required
or by phone using 1-253-215-8782

Tuesday July 13th
1:30 p.m. Evans Reading Group
[Virtual Discussion Link](#)
use passcode 2020 if required

News and Announcements

Safe Gathering News

Dear Cedars Community:
Cedars UU Church is excited to host outdoor gatherings and meetings throughout the summer. As the UUA firmly says, we UUs may take slightly more cautious steps than our state. We will follow the science—Kitsap Health Department and CDC guidelines for infection rates and other COVID tracking indicators. The good news is that we are

Our Congregational Mission

*Worship with open hearts
Nurture a learning spirit
Serve justice with compassion
Love without judgment*

beginning to gather together this summer! As of July 1, we will follow the COVID mitigation strategies below for the highest safety at our upcoming Cedars outdoor events this summer:

- 1.) If unvaccinated, you'll need to wear a mask and socially distance from others.
 - a. This includes any children or adults.
 - b. Consider wearing a mask even if vaccinated to show solidarity.
- 2.) We will serve only pre-packaged food and beverages (single servings).
 - a. If concerned for oneself, bring your own food and beverage.
 - b. No shared food or buffet-style offerings (like platters of home baked cookies).
- 3.) Use the hand sanitizer (pump bottle; use elbow) at several locations at the gathering/meeting.
 - a. At front entry for those arriving; 1 or 2 elsewhere, depending on size of meeting.
- 4.) Complete the **Cedars COVID Safety Form** (only 4 basic y/n questions) when arriving at entry or fill out and submit prior to entering gathering.
 - a. If anyone answers that they're currently ill, have been exposed to COVID in past two weeks, or tested positive in past two weeks, they cannot attend the gathering and must leave to protect others.

There are several coffee hours and other gatherings planned for this summer. These guidelines also apply to committee meetings and any Cedars-run activities. The gathering host or Committee Chair needs to be responsible for setting up the hand sanitizer stations and completing the COVID Safety form and returning it to **Carolyn Kerns** after the meeting (in case of contact tracing). More information for hosts will be available at the Cedars office and on the webpage next week. We are all excited to meet again as a community and spiritual congregation and we want to make sure we are as safe as possible for our WHOLE community.

In peace,
The **Cedars Board of Trustees** and the **Re-opening Task Force**

Congregational Survey Coming

Keep your eyes and your inboxes open for a congregational survey the week of July 11. You will receive a link to the survey via the email address we have for you in Breeze. Please set aside some time to sit down and offer your opinions and ideas to the Cedars Board. Join us as we plan for the new 2021-22 church year with a revitalized zeal to "serve justice with compassion" and renewed commitment to faith formation. Everyone's voice matters!

We have also included a link to the survey here, for your convenience: [Cedars Survey](#)

If you don't receive a survey, by Thursday July



**Cedars UU Church is a
Welcoming Congregation
and Green Sanctuary**



Rev. Zackrie Vinczen

Faith Formation at Cedars

An Invitation

Do you know any high school students who would like to explore Unitarian Universalism with other high schoolers?



YUUP (the Young Unitarian Universalists Project) is launching a platform to forge connections, work together, support each other, and find leadership opportunities. It will have a variety of different topics and groups within it for UU youth and recent bridgers across the country.

There are a couple of steps to joining the network: first, the youth must fill out the **Youth Drop-In Registry for their region** or **registry for recent bridgers**. Once the registry is filled out and confirmed by a parent and a minister or church administrator, youth will receive a Mighty Network invitation to get on YUUP.

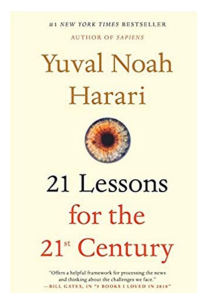
Spread the word! YUUP is for everyone. We hope to see you soon!

Meditation

Although the zoom format is not the same as meeting in person, it is a step in committing to a regular meditation practice. Each session includes 5 minutes of chanting, 25 minutes of silent meditation and at least 30 minutes of informal group discussion.



15 please contact **Carolyn Kerns** at office@cedarsuuchurch.org or during her office hours at 206-780-0373.



Evans Reading Group

We invite you to join us on Tuesday July 13th at 1:30 p.m.

Seeking "Salvation by Bibliography" as our late friend Marvin Evans used to say, we meet to discuss

books that can intrigue and might enlighten us.

Pushing beyond the highly acclaimed and previously discussed *Sapiens* that explored our historic development as a species, author **Yuval Noah Harari** now presents a probing study of today's most urgent challenges as we move into the uncharted territory of the future in *21 Lessons for the 21st Century*.

How do computers and robots change the meaning of being human? How do we deal with the epidemic of fake news? Are nations and religions still relevant? What should we teach our children?

The book is divided into five sections and we will discuss the fifth section (via Zoom) on July 13th. For more information contact **Alan Miller** or **Mary Romeo**

Climate Change Perspective

A New Documentary
July 10-25

OTHER SIDE OF THE HILL is a new documentary film that will be available this summer through Interfaith Power & Light for free viewing July 10-25.

Where can East and West, Republicans and Democrats, find the common ground needed to address climate change? How can industry and environmentalists work hand in hand? And how can local economies find opportunity in a lower emissions future?

The **Other Side of the Hill** is a hopeful, inspiring look at local leaders on the ground in rural America who are leading climate action in their communities. But it is also about coming together, finding common ground and new climate frameworks, and shining a light on rural voices as we envision a path forward.

The film will be available for free online viewing July 10 - 25.

You can watch the trailer and register to view or screen the film [here](#).

2040

The Meditation Group will take July off as a summer break and reconvene in August.

For more information or the Zoom link, contact **Dawna Kramer** at raddjk@yahoo.com or via phone number from the Breeze directory.

Cedars Knitting/Crafting Circle

Cedars knitters and crafters enjoy virtual social gatherings on first Wednesdays of the month at 1:30 p.m. and third Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

Both groups have decided to take a summer pause however, agreeing that "It's just too nice to be indoors and Zooming."

So stay tuned as autumn approaches, and watch for an announcement about resuming the activity, perhaps even mask-to-mask if not face-to-face as our lives return to normal.

The Wednesday afternoon group is now hosted by **Linda Andrews**, and the Monday evening group is hosted by **Hilda Wiens**.

Contact **Carol Ann Davidson** for details.

Morning Reflection Sessions

During Morning Reflection, led by **Rev. Zackrie**, participants are invited for meditation and discussion of brief sections from a selected and inspirational source.

The group recently finished **Kahlil Gibran's The Prophet** and has decided to take the summer off while considering its next selection.

Watch for a late summer announcement about reconvening.

Summer Choir

The Cedars Choir is now shifting to a Summer schedule for its practice sessions and will not be meeting this week. They will continue to meet virtually, as now, but only on the alternate Wednesdays of July 7 & 21 and August 4 & 18, and under the direction of Marcia Hill.

Join the Pastoral Care Team

Caring for one another is a core Unitarian practice, and the Cedars Pastoral Care Team is central to this ministry. We can offer a listening presence, connection, and hope to members of our Cedars community in times of need. We send cards, make phone calls, provide information resources and support family and friends who are caregivers.

The Team meets just once a month with our minister. We are now expanding the Team,

Monday, July 12 - 6:30 PM

Now, more than ever, we need positive voices in the ecological crisis. Join the Meaningful Movies Project (Quimper UU) to see director Damon Gameau's 2040, a hopeful film about climate change solutions and "exercise in fact-based dreaming." Using only the solutions that are available to us today, Damon envisions a positive future for our children and the planet. The film takes a solutions-based approach to how we can mitigate, using the technology we already have, the enormous global issues we currently face. The main themes/solutions looked at in the film are empowerment of women and girls; marine permaculture and ocean regeneration; regenerative agriculture; renewable energy; and circular economy. It's a story of hope, and a powerful tool to encourage people to take action.

Trailer and more info
Zoom Meeting Link

Both of these films are highly recommended by Cedars' Green Sanctuary Committee.

Cedars Creativity Fair 2021

See What Others Have Been Doing To Cope with Social Isolation

Our identity as a congregational community has been weakened by the COVID-19 pandemic, and one response has been to re-imagine virtual versions of the several after-service **Creativity Fairs** that were held in Webster Hall in recent years.

Organized to provide opportunities to see and enjoy artful products and demonstrations of the creativity present in our talented and capable congregation, those fairs helped us get to know and appreciate each other.

Please join the fun by sharing what you have been doing and enjoy the growing show using the link below!

Cedars Creativity Fair 2021

Shayne Chandler modestly says "One of my gardens 20 years later:"

and we would love to have you join us.

For more information about the Pastoral Care Team, please contact our new office administrator, Carolyn Kerns at office@cedarsuuchurch.org.

Pastoral Care Concerns

Mary Clear Padilla is in Poulsbo's Liberty Shores convalescent and retirement facility recovering from a fall and mild concussion. Cards and/or afternoon visits would be appreciated (call ahead to arrange at 360-779-5533). Her temporary address is:

Mary Clear Padilla
Apt. 115
Liberty Shores
19360 Viking Avenue NW
Poulsbo, WA 98370

In discussion with the Pastoral Care Team, **Rev. Zackrie** confirmed that he would appreciate being informed if anyone in the Cedars community tests positive for Covid-19.

The information will remain confidential if the person so wishes, but Rev. Zackrie's awareness could help with contact tracing as well as determining what support and possible services could be offered by Pastoral Care Team members and perhaps the larger Cedars UU community as well.

Social Justice News

Reform Our Justice System: Targeting the Poor

Banning debt-based drivers license suspensions is a goal of the Kitsap Equity, Race, And Community Engagement Coalition, **Kitsap ERACE**. The organization's criminal justice team added the objective to its list of collective actions after conferring with those working with impacted people.

Kitsap ERACE is a collaboration of many groups, organizations, and individuals, all striving for racial equity in Kitsap County. More information is available [here](#).



Note from Rev. Zackrie

From Friday June 25th until July 6th I will be away from Cedars. For a portion of this time, I will be in the Denver Colorado area to meet with my ministerial mentor. This time is

meant to be a period of spiritual deepening and reflection. I plan to return to Cedars after the 4th of July holiday refreshed and ready to

begin my 3rd year with all of you.



Guidelines for using Cedars Center

The Cedars Board is making the following restrictions to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission to the few people who must enter the Cedars Center to keep us functioning.

1. Permission from staff or Board Member is required for entry.
2. Sign in when entering and sign out when leaving.
3. Use hand sanitizer when entering.
4. Wear a mask and practice social distancing.
5. Avoid touching your face.
6. Please disinfect high contact surfaces when you enter and before you leave: door handles, light switches, computer mouse and keyboard, desks, tabletops, countertops, sinks, toilet, and shared equipment such as pens, staplers, and clipboards.

Thank you for helping to keep us safe!

Print the Beacon Newsletter

The Beacon is available to download and print each week. Go to www.cedarsuuchurch.org. The newest issue is available on the Cedars website under News after 12:00 p.m. on Fridays. Copies will also be available at Sunday Worship Services when they resume.

Member Directory

Members and Friends can easily search our online Church Directory for contact information. The link is located under the Connection Tab of the Cedars website

Services and Faith Formation

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
The Island School
8553 NE Day Road
Bainbridge Island

Cedars Center
284 Madrona Way, NE #128
Bainbridge Island WA 98110
(206) 780-0373

Closed during COVID-19 Pandemic

Rev. Zackrie Vinczen, Minister

For an appointment, e-mail
minister@cedarsuuchurch.org
For an urgent matter, call (360) 930-9339 (Pastoral Care)

Kathryn Jay, Faith Formation Lead
faith.formation@cedarsuuchurch.org

Carolyn Kerns, Office Administrator
hours: 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday office@cedarsuuchurch.org

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Do you have an article, event, or announcement?
Send it to The Beacon **by Friday at 11:00 a.m. ONE WEEK BEFORE** the next Friday's newsletter (7 days in advance). See our [submission guidelines](#).

Cedars UU Church (website)

